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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,185	01/28/2004	Hirotooshi Sugihara	2004_0063A	9837
513 7590 03/21/2007 WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P. 2033 K STREET N. W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021			EXAMINER LAO, LUN YI	
			ART UNIT 2629	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS			03/21/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/765,185	Applicant(s) SUGIHARA, HIROTOSHI	
	Examiner LUN-YI LAO	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/28/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2, 4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kfoury(6,549,789) in view of Shigeo(JP 08-179851).

As to claims 1-2, 4 and 11, Kfoury teaches an information processing apparatus comprising: an information processing apparatus comprising: a main body(202) having first contact-free sensor means(magnetic sensor 228)(see figures 2, 7-13 and column 6, lines 54); a display unit having a display panel(212)(see figure 2 and column 1, lines 57-61) and second contact-free sensor means(222)(see figures 1, 7-13 and column 6, lines 54-65); a hinge (214) having axes of rotation in two directions for coupling the main body(202) and the display unit(212)(see figures 2-4, 8; column 3, lines 43-45 and column 4, lines 53-65); and a display processor for receiving a first signal from either the first contact-free sensor means(228) or the second contact-free sensor means(212)

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sends a first signal(see figures 1, 10-13; column 4, lines 14-33 and column 6, lines 46-65).

Kfoury teaches a display unit(212) can be rotated by a user(see figures 2-4, 8-10; column 4, lines 53-68 and column 5, lines 1-45). Kfoury fails to disclose a display unit(212) can be rotated based on the first signal.

Shigeo teach to disclose a display unit(5) can be rotated based on a detecting signal send to a display processor(7, 10)(see figures 1-3; abstract; paragraphs 4 and 9-13). It would have been obvious to have modified Kfoury with the teaching of Shigeo, so a display could be automatic rotated. To provide automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result. In re Rundell, 18, CCPA 1290, 48 F.2d 958, 9 USPQ 220.

As to claims 2 and 4, Kfoury teach the first contact-free sensor means(228) is composed of a magnetic sensor which is mounted in the main body(202); wherein the second contact-free sensor means(222) is composed of a magnet; and wherein the second contact-free sensor means(222) is provided at the free end of the display unit(212)(see figures 2, 10-13; column 1, lines 57-61 and column 6, lines 45-65).

As to claim 11, Kfoury as modified teaches an angle that the display processor rotates the display of the display panel is 180.degree(see figures 8-9; claims 1 and 3; and column 4, lines 53-64).

3. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kfoury(6,549,789) in view of Shigeo(JP 08-179851) and Nakamura(US 2002/0009192).

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Kfoury as modified fail to disclose the first contact-free sensor mounted in a main unit is a magnet, and the second contact-free sensor means mounted on the display unit is a magnetic sensor.

Nakamura teaches the first contact-free sensor(4b) mounted in a main unit(2) is a magnet, and the second contact-free sensor means(4a) mounted on the display unit(10) is a magnetic sensor(see figures 1-4 and paragraphs 39-40). It would have been obvious to have modified Kfoury as modified with the teaching of Nakamura, since a change the location of a magnet and a magnet sensor is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

4. Claims 5-6 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kfoury(6,549,789) in view of Shigeo(JP 08-179851) and Hijii(US 20020119802).

As to claim 5-6 and 8-9, Kfoury as modified fail to disclose a third contact-free sensor means for sends a second signal to the power saver to cut off the power source of the display panel when the third contact-free sensor means and the second contact-free sensor means are placed face to face.

Hijii teaches an information processing apparatus comprising a third contact-free sensor means(7 or 8) for sends a second signal to the power saver to cut off the power source of the display panel(5) when the third contact-free sensor means(7 or 8) and a second contact-free sensor means(8 or 7) are placed face to face(see figures 1-7; paragraphs 6, 31 and 50). It would have been obvious to have modified Kfoury as modified with the teaching of Hijii, so as to save power.

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As to claim 6, Hijii teaches the third contact-free sensor means(7) are composed of magnetic sensors(see figure 1 and paragraph 47).

As to claim 9, It would have been obvious to the first contact-free sensor means, the second contact-free sensor means, and the third contact-free sensor means are positioned nearly in the middle in the thickness direction of the display unit(see Hijii's figure 2) and since a change the location of a magnet and a magnet sensor is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kfoury(6,549,789) in view of Shigeo(JP 08-179851) and Nakamura(US 2002/0009192).

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kfoury(6,549,789) in view of Shigeo(JP 08-179851), Hijii(US 20020119802) and Nakamura.

Kfoury as modified fail to disclose magnet mounted in a main unit, and the magnetic sensors mounted on the display unit.

Nakamura teaches the magnet(4b) mounted in a main unit(2), and the magnetic sensor(4a) mounted on the display unit(10)(see figures 1-4 and paragraphs 39-40). It would have been obvious to have modified Kfoury as modified with the teaching of Nakamura, since a change the location of a magnet and a magnet sensor is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

6. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kfoury(6,549,789) in view of Shigeo(JP 08-179851) and Higginbotham et al(5,896,575).

Kfoury as modified fail to disclose a touch input display.

Higginbotham et al teach a touch display panel(114, 108)(see figures 1-2 and column 2, lines 16-29). It would have been obvious to have modified Kfoury as modified with the teaching of Higginbotham et al, so an operator may simply touch the display object or portion of the display screen to select, highlight or otherwise input information on a display.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Nobuchi et al(6,492,974) teach a portable display system could automatic change of the display orientation in accordance with a detecting signal.

Shima(6,839,101) teaches an electronic display apparatus comprising a fold/unfold detector(6a, 6b).

Saw et al(6,445,574) teaches an electronic display apparatus comprising a open/close detector(48).

Suso et al(6,466,202) teaches teaches an electronic display apparatus for reduce power consumption when an apparatus is in a close position.

Kim(US 20050136970) teaches a swivel-type mobile terminal having magnetic sensor(46, 42, 40).

Hufgard et al(6,060,969) teaches an apparatus comprising magnetic sensor(7-9).

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Bilotti et al(6,622,012) teaches an apparatus comprising magnetic sensor(18, 20).

Pehrsson et al(6,314,183) teach a portable device comprising a magnetic sensor(32) mounted on a display unit(20) and a magnetic(34) mounted on a cover.

Haraguchi et al(6,831,146) teach a portable device having a rotational display.

Kawahigashi et al(7,074,045) teach an apparatus comprising magnetic sensor(413, 414, 422).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lun-yi Lao whose telephone number is 571-272-7671. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 571-272-7681 The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

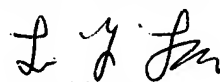
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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March 18, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L y Lao', written in a cursive style.

Lun-yi Lao

Primary Examiner